

tives, and proportionate blood-lettings are in general the chief remedies that are suited for Upper and Middle Egypt, for the cure of sporadic diseases that occur there, and in Lower Egypt, a *compound* method, consisting of purgatives, diaphoretics, warm baths, anthelmintics, emetics, tonics, and antiseptics.

Such are the facts that indicate the actual state of Medical science in Egypt; and we consider that they demonstrate a conclusion, which we repute undoubted, as well relative to this particular subject, as to every other branch of innovation actually attempted in that country, viz. that they are as yet but a *rough sketch*, which cannot perhaps be brought to perfection but after a long period of time, when the REFORMER PRINCE who has commenced the undertaking, and his magnanimous son, IBRAHIM Pacha,* renowned as well for his rare talent for governing as for his military qualities—when both, we say, having laid aside thoughts of war, by which they have been hitherto distracted, will exclusively dedicate their cares to the internal regime of the State, proud one day of having added a family to the illustrious circle of civilized nations.

ART. VII.—*Note on the dissection of the Arctonix Collaris, or Sand Hog.* By GEORGE EVANS, ESQ. late Curator to the Asiatic Society.

This curious little animal, for some time a living inmate of the Society's Rooms, having died suddenly on the night of the 20th January, apparently from the effects of cold, the following particulars of its dissection are offered to the notice of the Society.

In the length of the body it measured one foot, the head from the snout to the occiput five inches, and the tail, which is thin, straight, and pendulous, somewhat exceeded five inches.

The animal proved to be a young female, and had barely completed its second dentition. The only peculiarity worthy of notice, beyond what is already known and received, as far as regards its external organization, is a caudal pouch directly under the origin of the tail (something similar to what is found in the Badger,) but quite distinct from, and wholly unconnected with, the anus or genital organs. The sac is formed by duplicate folds of the common integuments, having a lining of naked membrane, secreting a brown unctuous matter, not unlike cerumen, or wax of the ear; the use of this peculiar structure and se-

* Eldest son of the Viceroy, born in Macedon, three miles from Cavella—a son unmatched in his obedience to his father.

cretion would appear to be confined to the generative function solely, and is most probably of an analogous nature to the lachrymal sacs in most of the Deer tribe.

The stomach was large and simple, with a strong muscular pylorus, not unlike in figure and structure that of our common Indian Bear (*U. labiatus*) on which animal I offered a few remarks at our last meeting.

The liver is divided into five distinct lobes, the second on the right side being partially separated at its lower marginal part for the reception of the gall-bladder, which contained some greenish looking bile. The kidneys differed from those of the Bears in not being lobulated. The total length of the alimentary canal from the pylorus to the anus measured eleven feet two inches. The intestines throughout were of delicate structure, and exhibited no distinct division or peculiarity of form by which the larger could be clearly distinguished from the smaller, and consequently there is no *cæcum* in this animal, or any dilatation equivalent thereto, the canal merely becoming a little more capacious in its descent towards the anal opening, where there are two small glandular follicles on its verge.

The uterus and organs of generation were too small and undeveloped to admit of examination.

Tongue large, broad, and with a soft smooth surface.

The system of dentition was as follows :

Incisors.	Canines.	False Molars.	True Molars.
$\frac{6}{6}$	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{4}{4}$	$\frac{4}{4}$ in all 32;

the Incisors, Canines, and false Molars corresponding more to the *Carnivora*, while the true Molars are tuberculous, leading to the inference that the quality of its food must be of a vegetable nature. The last Molar in the upper jaw is very remarkably lengthened, in fact it is more like the two ordinary terminal teeth united into one than a single tooth, but this is not the case with the corresponding tooth in the lower jaw.

The diet of the animal while in captivity consisted entirely of bread, milk, and plantains; the latter being evidently its favorite food, to the total rejection of meat and flesh of all kinds.

There were no morbid appearances observable on opening the body to account for its sudden death; this coupled with the circumstance of the animal having up to the time of its demise been in perfectly good health, and appearing in fine condition on dissection, leads me to conclude it must have perished from exposure to cold.

It has been remarked by some naturalists that this obscure and anomalous animal is closely allied to the Bears and Pigs, forming a

bond of union, or kind of link, connecting the extreme limits of the *Carnivora* with the omnivorous *Pachydermata*, but I do not clearly trace the connection here said to exist. That it shows some very marked affinities to the Bears cannot be denied, and which are prominently displayed in its perfectly plantigrade motion, by the form and structure of the foot, and by some of its habits; but where the connection said to exist between it and the Pigs, beyond a mere accidental resemblance of its head to that animal is to be found, I am at a loss to conceive. If an analogy is to be traced, I should certainly say that in general appearance and physiology it is far more like the Badger than any other animal it has been compared to, and its approximation to it is made apparent by its kindred habits, dentition, and other structural peculiarities, possessing like the Badgers the caudal pouch, and wanting, like them, a true *cæcum*, which its dissection has pointed out. In short, I incline to consider it an aberrant form of Mole leading directly into the Ursine group, rather than taking an intermediate place between the Bears and the *Pachydermatous* family, to which last it appears from the above dissection to have little or no affinity.

The importance of making anatomical organization the basis of systematic arrangement, as promulgated by Cuvier in his great work the *Regne Animal*, cannot be too forcibly insisted on; it is the only sure and safe guide to a correct analysis of genera and species, and where opportunities present themselves for these investigations they should never be lost sight of, while their results, however uninviting they may appear, should be duly noted and recorded as facts for the information of the systematic naturalist and inquirer after nature.

P. S.—Since writing the above I have met with a delineation and description of an animal by Bewick (*Hist. Quad.* 4th edit, Newcastle upon Tyne 1800, page 284) called the “Sand Bear,” in which he notices the name of “*Sow Badger*” as one of its appellations. The specimen from which his drawing was made belonged to the Tower of London Menagerie. He also quotes a white Badger (described by Brisson) as a native of New York, and believed to be of the same species. From the above quoted drawing of Bewick it is clear that the animal was known to English naturalists long before M. Duvaucel’s description had appeared; and I record the fact in order to wipe away a portion of that reproach so frequently cast upon our countrymen, of allowing foreigners the honor of having anticipated us in the wide extended field of Eastern Natural History to which we have such ready access; and which reproach I am convinced (with as much support as is afforded by the Governments of other European Powers to similar objects,) would never have been either deserved or incurred.